DECLASSIFIED EXCISE

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Acting
Thursday
August 28, 1952

Staff meeting.

I talked to Oliver Franks on the telephone. [redacted] RI-EB

The American Legion yesterday passed its annual resolution calling for Dean's resignation. In the Department there are 7,000 veterans, of whom about 425 are disabled. There is a movement on foot to have them protest the action taken at the American Legion Convention in New York.

The Danish Ambassador came in to present on the part of his Government a request that a communication be sent to the Soviets warning them against any action they might consider taking against the Island of Bornholm in connection with the forthcoming NATO naval maneuvers off the Danish coast. We had discussed this matter previously with the British and the French and think it would be ill-advised to send such a communication to the Russians. This I told Henrik Kauffmann.

Messrs. Shulman, Fisher and Claxton came to see me regarding a statement that might be made by the President at his press conference

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this afternoon, in rebuttal of the Dulles-Eisenhower line about the liberation of people in the satellite countries. It was understood [redacted] I would show such a statement to the President this morning. Dulles's recent speeches have advocated a [redacted] dangerous line which, in our opinion, might lead to premature uprisings and consequent liquidation of real patriots behind the iron curtain.

Messrs. Phillips and Howe briefed me for the PSB meeting today.

At the White House, I talked to the President about the iron curtain business, and he may or may not take it up this afternoon.

I went over the latest Iranian telegrams with him, and he asked [redacted] we submit to him a suggested reply to the Prime Minister this afternoon.

The PSB lunch passed off, as usual, [redacted] pleasantly. General Smith was our host. The chief piece of business was what publicity should be given to the experiments to be carried out this autumn at Eniwetok Island. The recommendations of the panel were, after certain deletions, adopted, and the panel was discharged with thanks.

I signed a letter to Dan Kimball, Secretary of the Navy, [redacted] strongly urging that he not take part in the Mainbrace maneuvers. As far as we know, no other Navy Secretary of the NATO powers will be present, and we would like to avoid, on this or any other occasion, creating an impression amongst our NATO partners that we are over-prominent in these joint enterprises.

Henry Brandon of the London Sunday Times came to see me. I told him I was absolutely unable to discuss anything connected with Iran with

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him, which he seemed to understand. We confined ourselves to an interchange of views on the British economic situation.

I held a retirement ceremony for Owen Dawson, who, in leaving the Department after thirty years of excellent service, will become an adviser to FAO.

Jean Daridan came to see me. I had Ridgway Knight with me. He raised again (1) the hope of his Government that they would get additional off-shore procurement contracts, and (2) the desirability of a statement by the Secretary backing the French reform program in Tunisia.

I told him we were in constant touch with the Defense Department on the first item, but we needed from his Government its military program for 1953 if we were to give serious consideration to this request.

As to the second, I told him since [redacted] Ambassador Bonnet was going to discuss this with the Secretary next week, I would see that the Secretary was adequately briefed.

I talked to the President on the telephone, and obtained clearance from him for his answer to Mr. Churchill, and authority to give the necessary instructions to our Ambassador in [redacted] Iran.

Chuck Spofford came in to see me. He is making a speech at the War College tomorrow.

We had dinner at home tonight for Air Marshall Sir William Elliott and his wife, the Sanseverinos of the Italian Embassy, Dorcas Hardin, the John Ackermans, Eddie Page, and the Tinsley Garnetts. We got to bed late.

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